

O I P E
OCT 20 2003
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
TRANSMITTAL FORM

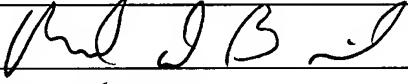
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

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| TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | | Application Number | 10/644,406 |
| | | Filing Date | August 19, 2003 |
| | | First Named Inventor | NIEMEYER, GUNTER D. |
| | | Art Unit | 2121 |
| | | Examiner Name | Unassigned |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | | Attorney Docket Number | 017516-002130US |

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) <i>(please identify below):</i> Return Postcard PTO/SB/08A & PTO/SB/08B | |
| | | Remarks | The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430. |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Firm or Individual | Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP Mark D. Barrish | |
| Signature |  | |
| Date | October 15, 2003 | |

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

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| Typed or printed name | Edward Masinas | | |
| Signature |  | Date | October 15, 2003 |



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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 017516-002130US

On 10-15-03

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Edward M. Masinas
Edward Masinas

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GUNTER D. NIEMEYER et al.

Application No.: 10/644,406

Filed: August 19, 2003

For: CAMERA REFERENCED
CONTROL IN A MINIMALLY
INVASIVE SURGICAL APPARATUS

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 2121

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and
§1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the references can be found in Application Nos. 10/163,626 and 09/373,678 (now U.S. Patent 6,424,885), filed June 6, 2002 and August 13, 1999 (Attorney Docket Nos. 017516-002120US and 017516-002110US), respectively. It is requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark D. Barrish
Reg. No. 36,443

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|-------------------------------|---|----|---|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Sublictute for form 1449A/PTO | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| | | | | Application Number | 10/644,406 |
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| | | | | First Named Inventor | NIEMEYER, GUNTER D. |
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| | | | | Examiner Name | Unassigned |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 5 | Attorney Docket Number | 017516-002130US |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+ | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | AA | 3,818,284 | 06-18-1974 | deVersterre et al | |
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| | BO | 5,754,741 | 05-19-1998 | Wang et al. | |

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| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



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|---|---|----|---|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Complete if Known | |
| Sheet | 2 | of | 5 | Application Number | 10/644,406 |
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| | | | | First Named Inventor | NIEMEYER, GUNTER D. |
| | | | | Art Unit | 2121 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Unassigned |
| | | | | Attorney Docket Number | 017516-002130US |

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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | CJ | WO | 95/01757 | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | CK | WO | 97/29690 | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | CL | WO | 97/43942 | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | CM | WO | 97/43943 | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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| Application Number | 10/644,406 |
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| First Named Inventor | NIEMEYER, GUNTER D. |
| Art Unit | 2121 |
| Examiner Name | Unassigned |
| Attorney Docket Number | 017516-002130US |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials * | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
| | CN | Adams et al., "Computer-assisted surgery," IEEE Computer Graphics & Applications, (May 1990) pp. 43-51. | |
| | CO | Alexander, III Impacts of telemanipulation on modern society, Intl. Centre for Mechanical Sciences, 1st CISM-IFTOMM Symposium, on Theory and Practice of Robots and Manipulators, (Sep. 5-8, 1973), vol. II, pp. 122-136. | |
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| | CS | Borovoi, A.V., "Stability of a manipulator with force feedback," Izv. AN SSSR Mekhanika Tverdogo Teal, (1990) vol. 25, No. 1, pp. 37-44. | |
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| | DC | Hannaford et al., "Experimental and simulation studies of hard contact in force reflecting teleoperation," IEEE (1988) pp. 584-589. | |

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials * | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | | T ² |
| | DD | Hill et al., "Telepresence surgery demonstration system," IEEE 1050-4729/94, pp. 2302-2307, 1994. | | |
| | DE | Hurteau et al., "Laparoscopic surgery assisted by a robotic cameraman: Concept and experimental results," I444 Intl. Conf. on Robotics and Automation, (May 8-13, 1994) pp. 2286-2289. | | |
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| | DG | Jones et al., "Next-generation 3D videosystems may improve laprascopic tast performance," Interactive Technology and the New Paradigm for Healthcare, (1995) Ch. 25, pp. 152-160. | | |
| | DH | Kazerooni et al., "The dynamics and control of a haptic interface device," IEEE Transactions on Robotics and Automation, (Aug. 1994) vol. 10, No. 4, pp. 453-464. | | |
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| | DL | Kwoh, et al., "A robot with improved absolute positioning accuracy for CT guided stereotactic brain surgery," IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering, (Feb. 1998), vol. 35, No. 2, pp. 153-160. | | |
| | DM | Lazarevic, "Feasibility of a Stewart Platform with Fixed Actuators as a Platform for CABG Surgery Device" Master's Thesis, Columbia University, Department of Bioengineering, pp. 1-45. | | |
| | DN | Madhani, Akhil Jiten, Dissertation entitled Design of Teleoperated Surgical Instruments for Minimally Invasive Surgery, Mass. Institute of Tech. (@Feb. 1998) | | |
| | DO | Massie et al. "The phantom haptic interface: a device for probing virtual objects," Proceedings of the ASME Winter Annual Mtg., Symposium on Haptic Interfaces for Virtual Environment and Teleoperator Systems, Chicago (Nov. 1994) pp. 1-7. | | |
| | DP | Mitsubishi et al., "A tele-micro-surgery system with co-located view and operation points and a rotational-force-feedback-free master manipulator," 2nd Annual Intl. Symposium on Medical robotics and Computer Assisted Surgery, Baltimore, Maryland, (Nov. 4-7, 1995) pp. 111-118. | | |
| | DQ | Neisius et al., "Robotic manipulator for endoscopic handling of surgical effectors and cameras" Proceedings of the First International Symposium on Medical Robotics and Computer Assisted Surgery, Vol. 2, Workshop (Part I & II)- Session VI, pp. 169-175. | | |
| | DR | Neisius et al., "Robotic manipulator for endoscopic handling of surgical effectors and cameras," 1st Intl. Symposium on Medical Robotics and Computer Assisted Surgery, Workshop (Part I & II)-Session VI, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (Sep. 22-24, 1994) vol. 2, pp. 169-175. | | |
| | DS | Sastry et al., "Millirobotics for remote, minamally-invasive surgery," Proceedings of the Intl. Workshop on Some Critical Issues in Robotics, Singapore (Oct. 2-3, 1995) pp. 82-98. | | |

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| | DT | Sastry, Shankar, http://robotics.eecs.berkeley.edu/ (Nov. 1, 1996) 8 pages. | | |
| | DU | Taubes, G., "Surgery in cyberspace," Discover (Dec. 1994) vol. 15, No. 12, pp. 84-94. | | |
| | DV | Thring, "Robots and telechairs: Manipulators with memory; remote manipulators; machine limbs for the handicapped" (1993) M.W. Thring/Ellis Horwood Ltd. pp. 9-11, 122-131, 194-195, 235-257, 274-279. | | |
| | DW | Thring, M.W., "Robots and telechairs: manipulators with memory; remote manipulators; machine limbs for the handicapped," (1983) Ch. 5:pp. 8-11; Ch. 5:122-131. Ch. 7:194-195; Ch. 8:236-279. | | |
| | DX | Trevelyan et al., "Motion control for a sheep shearing robot," First Int'l. Symposium, Robotics Research, Edited by M. Brady and R. Paul, MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, (1984) Chapter 2, pp. 177-190. | | |
| | DY | Vibet, C., "Properties of master-slave robots," Motor-Con '87, Hannover, FRG, (Apr. 2-4, 1987), pp. 309316. | | |

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